

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:RGRICH,JR.:JCM
APPROVED BY EA:RHOLBROOKE
EA - MR. SULLIVAN
EA/PRCM - MR. ANDERSON
S/S-O - TMARTIN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209868

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, SHUM, CH, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: AMB. KIM'S MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HOLBROOKE

1. AMBASSADOR KIM YONG-SHIK CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE AUGUST 16 AT HOLBROOKE'S REQUEST FOR A WIDE-RANGING REVIEW OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ISSUES.

2. KIM DONG-JO

ON THE QUESTION OF KIM DONG-JO, MR. HOLBROOKE STRESSED THAT WE WERE NOW AT THE FINAL EPISODE IN THE KOREAGATE PROBLEM. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO AMB. KIM FOR HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS TO HELP RESOLVE THESE ISSUES. IT WAS NOW CRITICALLY IMPORTANT THAT FORMER AMBASSADOR KIM

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DONG-JO BE FULLY RESPONSIVE TO THE CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRES WHICH WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER BY AMBASSADOR GLEYSTEN ON FRIDAY. IF THIS PROCESS WENT WELL, THEN NEXT YEAR WOULD TRULY BE A YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY FOR WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER AND FOR MAKING BETTER KNOWN IN THE UNITED STATES THE PROGRESS AND SUCCESSES OF THE ROK AND THE PLACE IT WAS BEGINNING TO ASSUME IN THE WORLD. IF

OUR LONG MUTUAL EFFORTS TO BRING THIS PROBLEM SATISFACTORILY TO A CONCLUSION WERE NOW INEFFECTIVE, HOWEVER, THE REACTION IN THE CONGRESS WOULD BE VERY BAD.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS

A. MR. HOLBROOKE CONGRATULATED KIM ON KOREA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY AND NOTED THAT THE RELEASE OF 22 POLITICAL PRISONERS WAS A SOUND MOVE WHICH WOULD BE APPRECIATED HERE. NEVERTHELESS, HE REGRETTED THAT THE ROKG HAD NOT SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A MORE MAGNANIMOUS AND FORTHRIGHT POLITICAL GESTURE. KIM TAE-CHUNG IS STILL IN DETENTION, YET THE AMBASSADOR MUST BE AWARE WHAT A POSITIVE IMPACT HIS FREEDOM WOULD HAVE ON OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES. WE HOPE THAT FURTHER STEPS WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

B. AMBASSADOR KIM SAID HE DID NOT YET HAVE AN INTERPRETIVE REPORT FROM SEOUL ON THE RELEASES, BUT THE PRESS ATTENTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO KIM TAE-CHUNG SHORTLY BEFORE AUGUST 15 WOULD HAVE MADE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE HIM AT THIS TIME. TO HAVE DONE SO COULD HAVE BEEN SEEN AS RESPONDING TO FOREIGN PRESSURE.

4. CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

NOTING THE SIGNIFICANT SUCCESS IN GETTING CONGRESSIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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APPROVAL FOR EQUIPMENT TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION AND KOREA PROGRAM FUNDS, MR. HOLBROOKE REMINDED THE AMBASSADOR THAT THIS HAD NOT BEEN AN EASY VICTORY, BUT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED ONLY AFTER SIGNIFICANT AND CONCERTED EFFORTS BY THE ADMINISTRATION. IT WOULD NOW BE HELPFUL FOR THE ROKG TO SEIZE THIS POSITIVE MOMENTUM WITH FORTHRIGHT RESOLUTION OF SUCH ISSUES AS KIM DONG-JO AND POLITICAL PRISONERS.

5. CHINA-JAPAN PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY (PFT)

AMBASSADOR KIM RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE PFT. MR. HOLBROOKE SAID THAT IN OUR VIEW IT STRENGTHENED STABILITY IN NORTHEAST ASIA. THE JAPANESE HAD INFORMED US SLIGHTLY IN ADVANCE AND WE HAD EXPRESSED OUR POSITIVE REACTION TO THE PRESS. AMBASSADOR KIM NOTED THE HIGHLY NEGATIVE SOVIET REACTION AND HOPED THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT TAKE NEGATIVE AND DESTABILIZING ACTIONS.

6. CHINA

A. -
THE AMBASSADOR INQUIRED WHETHER US ENDORSEMENT OF THE PFT

SIGNIFIED ANY CHANGE IN USG POLICY TOWARD THE PRC ITSELF. MR. HOLBROOKE REPLIED THAT THE GOAL OF THE ADMINISTRATION REMAINED CONSISTENT: TO WORK TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PRC WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE

SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. WE WOULD KEEP THE ROK AND OUR OTHER ALLIES INFORMED OF CONCRETE DEVELOPMENTS TOWARD THIS GOAL, HOWEVER. AS WE PROCEED, WE INTEND TO ENSURE THE PEACEFUL FUTURE OF THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN.

B. MR. HOLBROOKE CALLED ATTENTION TO SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PRC'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS OTHER THAN THE PFT. RECOGNIZING THAT IT WAS FAR BEHIND SUCH NATIONS AS THE US, JAPAN, AND THE ROK, CHINA WAS REACHING OUT TO CONFIDENTIAL

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IMPROVE ITS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF STUDENTS WOULD BE GOING TO THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE THIS YEAR. SECONDLY, THE PRC IS ENGAGING IN A MUCH MORE ACTIVE FOREIGN POLICY, A POLICY WHICH IS ALSO ACTIVELY ANTI-SOVIET HUA KUO-FENG'S CURRENT TRIP TO YUGOSLAVIA AND ROMANIA IS NOTEWORTHY IN THIS REGARD.

C. AMBASSADOR KIM INQUIRED WHETHER THESE DEVELOPMENTS WERE A RESULT OF U.S. INFLUENCE, AND MR. HOLBROOKE ASSURED HIM THAT THEY WERE NOT. THEY DID REPRESENT THE ASCENDENCY OF TENG HSIAO-PING AND HIS EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE CHINA.

7. NORTH KOREAN TILT

MR. HOLBROOKE STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THESE DEVELOPMENTS WERE BRINGING ABOUT PROFOUND CHANGES IN THE PRC'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS, HE DID NOT FORESEE ANY EARLY CHANGE IN THE PRC'S STANCE ON KOREA OR SUPPORT FOR PYONGYANG. WE HAVE NOTED IN RECENT WEEKS AN APPARENT TILT IN NORTH KOREAN STATEMENTS WHICH APPEARED DEFINITELY TO LEAN TOWARD PEKING MORE THAN MOSCOW. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN EITHER OF THE DEGREE OF THIS SHIFT, ITS MOTIVES, OR WHAT MEANING IT WILL HAVE FOR THE FUTURE. HE INVITED THE AMBASSADOR TO SHARE ROKG ASSESSMENTS AS THESE BECAME AVAILABLE SO THAT WE MIGHT POOL OUR INFORMATION AND JUDGMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT.

8. THE PRESIDENT'S VETO

MR. HOLBROOKE INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT WITHIN THE HOUR THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE ANNOUNCING HIS VETO OF THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATION BILL DUE TO ITS INCLUSION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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MORE THAN TWO BILLION DOLLARS IN UNREQUESTED FUNDS FOR
A NEW ATTACK CARRIER. HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS DID NOT
REPRESENT ANY EFFORT TO CUT BACK SIGNIFICANTLY ON DEFENSE
SPENDING, BUT ONLY A JUDGMENT THAT THIS EXPENSIVE WEAPONS
SYSTEM WAS NOT THE BEST WAY TO SPEND THE PUBLIC'S MONEY
TO ENSURE AN ADEQUATE DEFENSE. THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST

TIME A PRESIDENT HAD VETOED A DEFENSE APPROPRIATION BILL.
AMBASSADOR KIM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS
EXPLANATION. VANCE

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